Posting of doctors in rural areas of Madhya Pradesh

2702. SHRI SHIVPRASAD CHANPURIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that doctors have not been posted in the Government hospitals, situated in the rural areas of Madhya Pradesh, if so, what is the district-wise number of such hospitals;

(b) what are the reasons for not posting the doctors there; and

(c) by when these vacancies of doctors would be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There is shortage of doctors in Madhya Pradesh. The State Government is making adhoc recruitments.

Cancer cases in India

2703. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY:
SHRI P. UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidence of cancer especially cervical breast and oral cancer is increasing in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there are eight lakhs new cancer patients every year; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the measures proposed to be taken to combat this?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) According to Indian Council of Medical Research, the incidence of cancer has not shown any appreciable change.

(b) It is estimated that in India about 6 lakh new cancer cases occur every year.

(c) More emphasis is now being given on prevention and early detection of cancer under the National Cancer Control Programme. Simultaneously efforts have been made to augment cancer treatment facilities in the country. A number of new schemes have accordingly been initiated under the programme.

Research and test of herbal contraceptives

2704. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that researchers at the National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi, have been testing at least three harbal contraceptives;

(b) if so, the details thereof and what are the results of the tests and studies in respect of the effectiveness efficacy and safety of users from any side effects; and

(c) what steps have been and are being taken for commercial manufacture and use of contraceptive herbal drugs?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The researchers at National Institute of Immunology are testing two herbal contraceptives.

(b) The two different contraceptives developed at the National Institute of Immunology are: (i) A poly-herbal Praneem Cream, intended for intravaginal use. In animals, it has show high contraceptives efficacy. (ii) Another preparation is Praneem VILCI, which is like a liquid Intra-uterine device (IUD). A single administration in the uterus prevents pregnancy for several months without any side effects.

Preliminary trials in women for both of these preparations are going on.